Commonwealth Office of Technology

COT Security Alert – User Account Information Phishing Email

The Commonwealth Office of Technology has been notified of a phishing scam attempting to solicit user login information from users within the state. This particular scam is requesting that users provide information such as Username, Password, and Date of Birth. This email also uses the social engineering factor of fear, advising the user that their account will be terminated if they do not respond within 24 hours. As a matter of IT best practices, and Enterprise Policy in the case of state government, no legitimate organization would request that you provide this information in this manner. COT is currently working with the source to mitigate the current threat. This remains a popular method of obtaining information illegitimately and we encourage all users to be cautious and **never provide this type of information by email**. If you feel that a request may be valid, we recommend that you contact the requestor directly to verify the request.

If you have responded to this phishing email, we recommend that you change your account password immediately and notify the appropriate security staff for your agency.

NOTICE: COT is providing this information so that you are aware of the latest security threats, vulnerabilities, software patches, etc. You should consult with your network administrator or other technical resources to ensure that the appropriate actions for these alerts are followed. If you are a network administrator and need additional information, please call the Help Desk at 502.564.7576.

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